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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 09/955,037 | 09/19/2001 | Tom J. Whitaker | 2959-0104P | 8300 |
| 2292 | 7590 01/02/2004 | | EXAMINER | |
| BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH | | | LU, FRANK WEI MIN | |
| PO BOX 747 FALLS CHUF | RCH, VA 22040-0747 | | ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | | 1634 | |
| • | | , | DATE MAILED: 01/02/2004 | · |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | 01 |
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| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| Nation of Abandonment | 09/955,037 | WHITAKER ET AL. | |
| Notice of Abandonment | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Frank W Lu | 1634 | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication a | ppears on the cover sheet w | ith the correspondence a | nddress |
| This application is abandoned in view of: | | | |
| Applicant's failure to timely file a proper reply to the Of (a) A reply was received on (with a Certificate of period for reply (including a total extension of time) | of Mailing or Transmission date of month(s)) which expi | d), which is after th red on | |
| (b) ☐ A proposed reply was received on, but it do | | | |
| (A proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely for the Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 3 | iled Notice of Appeal (with app | ly filed amendment which peal fee); or (3) a timely filed | places the d Request for |
| (c) ☐ A reply was received on but it does not constinul rejection. See 37 CFR 1.85(a) and 1.111. (See | | | eply, to the non- |
| (d) ⊠ No reply has been received. | | | |
| Applicant's failure to timely pay the required issue fee from the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance (PTO | L-85). | | |
| (a) ☐ The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, v), which is after the expiration of the statutory Allowance (PTOL-85). | was received on (with a y period for payment of the issu | a Certificate of Mailing or a legal to the control of the control | Transmission dated set in the Notice of |
| (b) ☐ The submitted fee of \$ is insufficient. A bala | nce of \$ is due. | | |
| The issue fee required by 37 CFR 1.18 is \$ | The publication fee, if require | ed by 37 CFR 1.18(d), is \$ | · |
| (c) \square The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, has | s not been received. | | |
| Applicant's failure to timely file corrected drawings as r Allowability (PTO-37). | equired by, and within the three | e-month period set in, the N | Notice of |
| (a) ☐ Proposed corrected drawings were received on after the expiration of the period for reply. | (with a Certificate of Mailin | g or Transmission dated _ |), which is |
| (b) ☐ No corrected drawings have been received. | | | |
| The letter of express abandonment which is signed by the applicants. | the attorney or agent of record | t, the assignee of the entire | e interest, or all of |
| The letter of express abandonment which is signed by 1.34(a)) upon the filing of a continuing application. | an attorney or agent (acting in | a representative capacity | under 37 CFR |
| The decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Inter of the decision has expired and there are no allowed of | | d because the period for so | eeking court review |
| 7. The reason(s) below: | | | |
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Application/Control Number: 09/955,037

Art Unit: 1634

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1988), 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993), and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993)(See 37 CAR § 1.6(d)). The CM Fax Center number is either (703) 308-4242 or (703)305-3014.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank Lu, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (703) 305-1270. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion, can be reached on (703) 308-1119.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the patent Analyst of the Art Unit, Ms. Chantae Dessau, whose telephone number is (703) 605-1237.

Frank Lu

PSA

December 24, 2003